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REMARKS

1. Examiner's Interview

The undersigned attorney appreciates the telephonic interview provided by Examiner Ni at 2 PM EST (1 PM CST) on the afternoon of Thursday, April 7, 2005 to discuss the Office Action, U.S. Patent 4,439,643 to Schweizer, and independent claims 8 and 15. To review:

(1) The undersigned attorney argued that as discussed in the prior Response, the backbox of *Schweizer* (allegedly part 1 in FIGS. 1 and 6-7) *does not* have a peripheral edge about which *Schweizer's* grill (parts 1' and 4 in FIGS. 4 and 6-7) is crimped. It was agreed that FIGS. 6-7 of *Schweizer* show that the grill 1 is not in fact crimped about element 1' (nor is the grill 1' crimped about element 1); rather, the grills 1 and 1' are identical, and are connected via the intermediate element 2 of FIGS. 2 and 6-7 (as shown in FIGS. 6-7).

However, the Examiner then questioned if claims 8 and 15 might nevertheless be regarded as reading on *Schweizer* if the intermediate element 2 of FIGS. 2 and 6-7 is regarded to be the backbox, and if either of the (identical) grills 1 and 1' is then regarded to be the recited grill, since FIGS. 6-7 appear to show a portion of the grilles 1 and 1' (the flange 5') crimped about the peripheral edges 5/7 of the backbox.

Upon reviewing this matter after the interview, the undersigned attorney submits that even taking this interpretation, claims 8 and 15 do not read on *Schweizer*:

a. Neither grill 1 or 1' in *Schweizer* has a crimping edge which is crimped about a peripheral edge of the backbox 2/5/7 in FIGS. 2 and 6-7 wherein the peripheral edge of the backbox is "laterally bounding the backbox" as recited in claim 8. Further, note that claim 8 has been amended to *further* recite that the backbox peripheral edge is "laterally bounding the *entirety* of the backbox" (as in claim 15), which *further* clearly differentiates claim 8 from *Schweizer*. Claim 8 should therefore be allowable.

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b. Neither grill 1 or 1' in *Schweizer* has a crimping edge which is crimped about a peripheral edge of the backbox 2/5/7 in FIGS. 2 and 6-7 wherein the peripheral edge "bounds the entirety of the backbox" as recited in claim 15. Further, note that claim 15 has been amended to further recite that the backbox peripheral edge "laterally bounds the entirety of the backbox" (as in claim 8), which further clearly differentiates claim 15 from *Schweizer*. Claim 15 should therefore be allowable.

Entry of these amendments is believed warranted because claims 8 and 15 are allowable even without these amendments, and they simply further help to clearly place the claims in condition for allowance as per MPEP 714.12. Further, these amendments involve no new issues nor any new search, since they merely transport parallel limitations between claims 8 and 15.

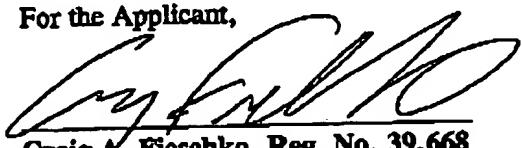
(2) The Examiner suggested that claims 8 and 15 might more clearly be placed in condition for allowance if they were amended to plainly state that the crimping edge of the grill is crimped "to curve about" the peripheral edge, since *Schweizer* plainly does not illustrate this feature, nor is there any advantage apparent to incorporating such a feature into *Schweizer*. This amendment has therefore also been made to claims 8 and 15, with support being found in FIG. 1 and page 5 lines 12-13 ("the speaker enclosure system 10 also includes a grill 30 that is crimped at edges 34, as illustrated in FIG. 1"), showing the curved peripheral edges of the grill. Support is also provided by the bending process described at page 6 lines 16-19 ("Illustrated in FIG. 5, the grill 30 is secured to the backbox 20 by crimping the edges 34 of the grill 30 around the peripheral edge 22 of the backbox 20. FIG. 5 shows the backbox 20 and the grill 30 before the grill edges 34 are bent over the peripheral edge of the backbox 20.").

The Examiner suggested that a new or additional drawing might be required for such an amendment, but since FIG. 1 illustrates the claimed arrangement, no new drawing appears necessary.

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In view of the foregoing amendments, it is believed that claims 8 and 15 (and their dependent claims 9-11, 16-18, 20-21, and 24-25) are now plainly in condition for allowance. *If any questions regarding the application arise, please contact the undersigned attorney.* Telephone calls related to this application are welcomed and encouraged. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments relating to this application to deposit account number 18-2055.

For the Applicant,



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